

\ve found it above seven leagues. We marched as in our former journey to Panama, both for order and silence ; to the great wonder of the French Captain and company, who protested they knew not by any means how to recover the pinnaces, if the Cimaroons (to whom what our Captain commanded was a law; though they little regarded the French* as having no trust in them) should leave us: our Captain assured him, " There was no cause of doubt of them, of whom he had had such former trial."

When we were come within an English mile of the way₃ we stayed all night, refreshing ourselves, in great stillness, in a most convenient place: where we heard the carpenters, being many in number, working upon their ships, as they usually do by reason of the great heat of the day in N ombre de Dios; and might hear the mules coming from Panama, by reason of the advantage of the ground.

The next morning (1st April), upon hearing of that number of bells, the Cimaroons, rejoiced exceedingly, as though there could not have befallen them a more joyful accident, chiefly having been disappointed before. Now they all assured us, " We should have more gold and silver than all of us could bear away" : as in truth it fell out.

For there came three *Recuas*, one of 50 mules, the other two, of 70 each, every [one] of which carried 300 lbs. weight of silver; which in all amounted to near thirty tons [*i.e.*, 190 mules, with 300 lbs. each—about 57,000 lbs. of stiver].

We putting ourselves in readiness, went down near the way to hear the bells ; where we stayed not long, but we saw of what metal they were made ; * and took such hold on the heads of the foremost and hindmost mules, that all the rest stayed and lay down, as their manner is.

These three *Recuas* were guarded with forty-five soldiers or thereabouts, fifteen to each *Recm*, which caused some exchange of bullets and arrows for a time; in which conflict the French Captain was sore wounded with hail-shot in the belly, and one Cimaroon was slain: but in the end, these soldiers thought it the best way to leave their mules with us, and to seek for more help abroad,

In which meantime we took some pain to ease some of the

J* Notice the bantering and triumphant style of the narrative from this point of victory to the end.—E. A-1